

**Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project**  
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health  
Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project  
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Sheila Pomeroy

DATE: July 16, 2004

RE: Diagnosis of State Hospital Patients in Vermont, Neighboring States, and the U.S.

The Federal Center of Mental Health Services recently released its annual report on *Additions and Resident Patients at End of Year, State and County Mental Hospitals, by Age and diagnosis, by State, United States, 2002*.<sup>1</sup> This week's PIP draws on that report to compare Vermont State Hospital utilization with neighboring states in terms of the clinical composition of State Hospital caseloads.

For purposes of this report, patients have been grouped into six diagnostic categories. These include Schizophrenia Related Disorders and Other Psychotic Disorders<sup>2</sup>; Affective Disorders<sup>3</sup>; Personality Disorders and other non-psychotic Disorders<sup>4</sup>; Substance Related and Alcohol Related Disorders<sup>5</sup>; Organic Disorders<sup>6</sup>; and Other Disorders<sup>7</sup>. Two measures of utilization are provided. First, the percent of all state hospital patients at the end of the year who fall into each diagnostic category is presented. The sum of these percents will always equal 100%. Second, the proportion of all residents of the state who are on the hospital caseload at the end of the year in each diagnostic category is presented. The sum of these rates will be the overall state hospital utilization rate for each state.

As you will see, the population of the Vermont State Hospital is much more clinically diverse than state hospital populations in neighboring states or the nation as a whole. In Vermont, the two broad categories of schizophrenia/psychoses and affective disorders accounted for about half of state hospital patients; other categories accounted for the other half. In the nation as a whole, these two categories accounted for almost two thirds of state hospital patients. In Vermont's neighboring states, these two categories accounted for more than two thirds of state hospital patients, with only one-thirds reported in the other categories. The Vermont State Hospital has a greater representation of Alcohol/Substance related diagnoses and organic disorders than the other states or the nation as a whole, and, along with New Hampshire, Vermont has a greater representation of patients with personality disorders and other non-psychotic disorders than other neighboring states or the nation as a whole.

In terms of total utilization of state hospitals (rate per 100,000 population), Vermont was only slightly below Massachusetts but had substantially lower state hospital utilization rates than New Hampshire, New York, and the nation as a whole. Vermont was also lower in per capita

utilization of its state hospital by individuals with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia and Related Disorders and Other Psychotic Disorders and Affective Disorders. Vermont tended to fall within the same range as the other states in terms of per capita utilization by individuals in our other diagnostic categories.

If you would be interested in similar comparisons to other states, please let us know. As always, we look forward to your comments and suggestions for further analysis to 802-241-2638 or [pip@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:pip@vdh.state.vt.us).

<sup>1</sup> Atay, Joanne and Manderscheid, Ronald CMS, Male, Alisa and DeLozier, Jason, Synectics for Management Decisions, Center for Mental Health Services. *Additions and Resident Patients at End of Year, State and County Mental Hospitals, by Age and diagnosis, by State, United States, 2002*. Rockville, MD.: the Centner, 2003, Printed 2004.

<sup>2</sup>Schizophrenic & Related and Other Psychotic Disorders:  
Schizophrenia and Related Disorders (295, 299);  
Other Psychotic (297, 298).

<sup>3</sup>Affective Disorders:  
Affective Disorders (296, 300.4, 301.11, 301.13, 311).

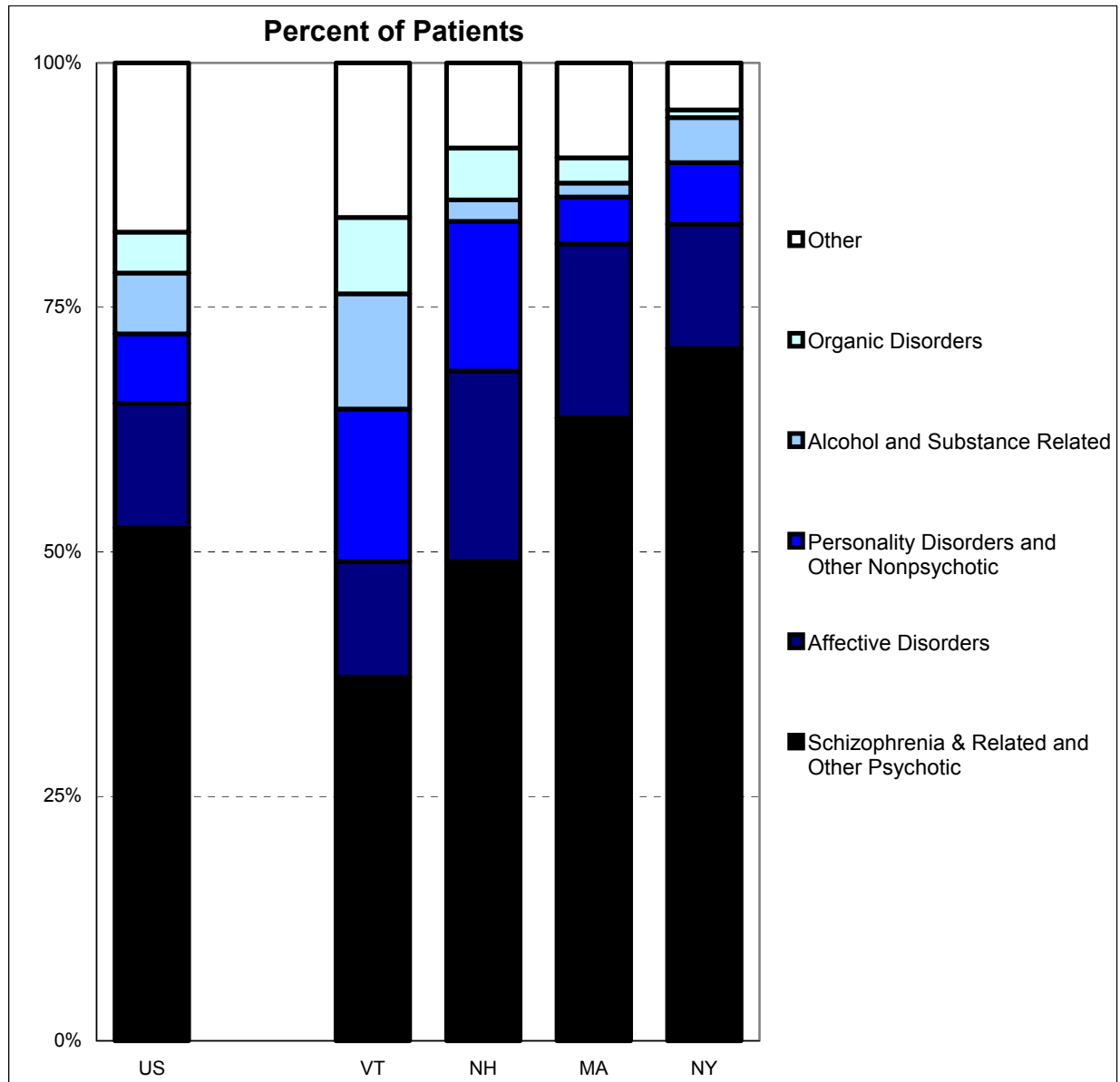
<sup>4</sup>Personality Disorders and Other Nonpsychotic:  
Personality Disorders (301 (except 301.11 and 301.13), 312.13);  
Other Nonpsychotic (293.9, 296.90, 300.89, 300.9, 302, 306, 307 (except 307.8), 309 (except 309.21, 309.81), 313.1, 313.22-313.9, 315, 316, 332.1, 333, 607.84, 608.89, 625.0-625.8, 787.6, 995.2).

<sup>5</sup>Alcohol and Substance Related:  
Alcohol Related (291, 303, 305.0);  
Substance Related (292, 304, 305.1-305.9, 327, 328).

<sup>6</sup>Organic Disorders:  
Vascular or Medical Condition (290, 293, 294, 310, 780.09).

<sup>7</sup>Other:  
Mental Retardation (317-319);  
Anxiety/Somatoform/Dissociative (300 (except 300.4 and 300.89-9), 307.8, 308, 309.21, 309.81);  
Preadult Disorders (312 (except 312.3), 314);  
Other Problems that are not Mental Disorders ("V" codes (except V71.09), 313.82, 780.9);  
No Mental Disorder (V71.09);  
Deferred/Undiagnosed (799.9).

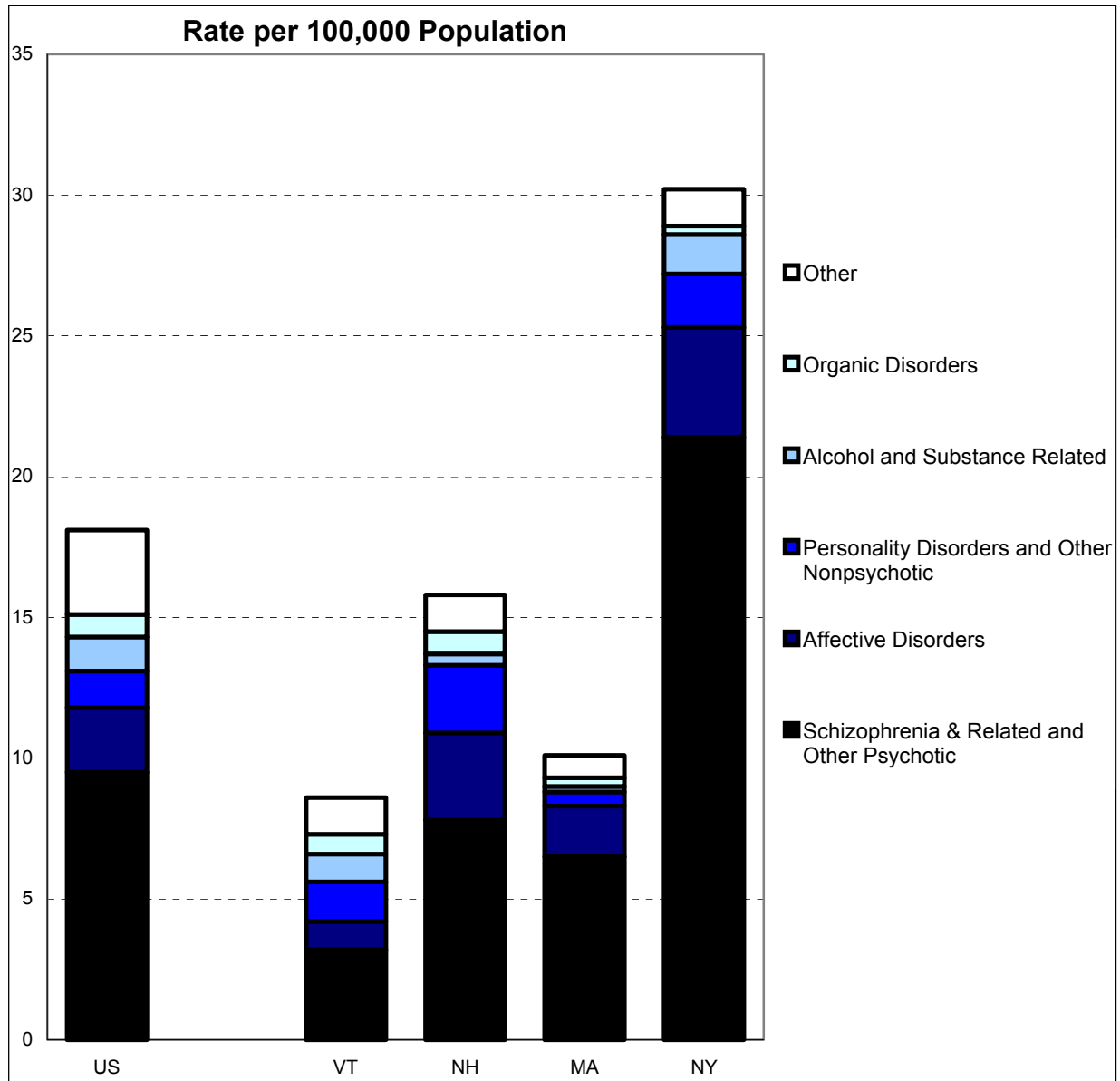
**Diagnostic Categories of State Hospital Patients  
At End of Year: FY 2002  
Vermont, Neighboring States, and the U.S.**



Percent Resident Patients in State and County Mental Hospitals by Diagnostic Category					
	US	State			
		VT	NH	MA	NY
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Other	17.3	15.8	8.7	9.7	4.8
Organic Disorders	4.2	7.8	5.3	2.6	0.8
Alcohol/Substance Related	6.2	11.8	2.2	1.4	4.6
Personality Disorders/Other Nonpsychotic	7.1	15.6	15.3	4.8	6.3
Affective Disorders	12.7	11.8	19.5	17.8	12.7
Schizophrenia & Related/Other Psychotic	52.5	37.2	49.0	63.7	70.8

Data from *Additions and Resident Patients at End of Year, State and County Mental Hospitals, by Age and diagnosis, by State, United States, 2002*

**Diagnostic Categories of State Hospital Patients  
At End of Year: FY 2002  
Vermont, Neighboring States, and the U.S.**



Rate of Resident Patients in State and County Mental Hospitals by Diagnostic Category						
	US	State				
		VT	NH	MA	NY	
Total	18.1	8.6	15.8	10.1	30.2	
Other	3.0	1.3	1.3	0.8	1.3	
Organic Disorders	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.3	
Alcohol/Substance Related	1.2	1.0	0.4	0.2	1.4	
Personality Disorders/Other Nonpsychotic	1.3	1.4	2.4	0.5	1.9	
Affective Disorders	2.3	1.0	3.1	1.8	3.9	
Schizophrenia & Related/Other Psychotic	9.5	3.2	7.8	6.5	21.4	

Data from *Additions and Resident Patients at End of Year, State and County Mental Hospitals, by Age and diagnosis, by State, United States, 2002*